

NATIONAL CANNERS ASSOCIATION



Information Letter



FOR N. C. A. MEMBERS

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Office Force at Atlantic City

As the executive personnel of the Washington office of the Association will be at Atlantic City in connection with the Annual Convention from January 22nd to 28th, it is recommended that correspondence regarding any especially important or urgent matter be addressed to the Secretary, Hotel Ambassador, during that time and arrangements will be made to give such matters prompt attention.

Corn Borer Legislation Introduced

On January 3rd, Congressman Purnell of Indiana introduced a bill in the House (H. R. 15649) to provide for the eradication or control of the European corn borer. The bill calls for an appropriation of \$10,000,000 to be expended under the direction of the Secretary of Agriculture. The expenditure of any part of this appropriation in any State would be conditioned on passage of necessary State legislation to insure adequate co-operation. No portion of this sum of money appropriated could be used in paying for farm work which is necessary for normal farm operations or to pay the cost or value of farm crops involved or destroyed.

Steps are being taken to get State legislation enacted, giving the necessary authority to State agricultural officials and organizations to co-operate in the control work contemplated.

Bean Statistics

Statistics of the green and wax bean pack for 1926 have just been published by this Association and copies are being sent to bean cannerys. Additional copies will be gladly supplied upon request.

Misbranding of Seeds Prohibited

At the last session of Congress an amendment to the Federal Seed Act was passed, which makes it unlawful to sell or ship in interstate commerce any seed which is misbranded. Any such misbranded seed is liable to be seized by order of the court and sold, destroyed, or released under bond.

Misbranding, under the Act, is held to include any statement, design or device on the seed container or invoice which is false or fraudulent. The administration of the amendment is in the hands of the Department of Agriculture and the Solicitor of the Department is interpreting its provisions as applying to interstate commerce in all seeds, regardless of whether the seed in question may have been imported under the provisions of the original Act or not.

Freight Rates to Europe to be Advanced

According to a recent newspaper report, the steamship lines operating between the Pacific Coast and Europe have decided to advance the rate on canned goods and dried fruits from the Pacific Coast to the United Kingdom and the European continent to ten cents per hundred pounds, effective from May 1st to August 31st, 1927.

A meeting of the steamship lines will be held in January to determine whether the increases should be retained after August 31st.

British Food Regulations Revised

In our membership letter No. 133, page 76, we called the attention of our members to the new British regulations on preservatives in foods which are to go into effect on January 1st, 1927.

The Foreign Tariffs Division of the Department of Commerce announces that these regulations have lately been revised as far as the schedule of foods permitted to contain preservatives is concerned. The revised items are:

(2) Fruit and fruit pulp (not dried) for conversion into jam or crystallized or glace fruit as defined in items 6 and 7, (a) cherries, 3,000 parts per million of sulphur dioxide; (b) strawberries and raspberries, 2,000 parts per million of sulphur dioxide; (c) other fruit, 1,500 parts per million of sulphur dioxide.

(6) Jam (including marmalade and fruit jelly prepared in the way in which jam is prepared), 40 parts per million of sulphur dioxide.

(7) Crystallized and glace fruit (including candied peel), 100 parts per million sulphur dioxide, (a) fruits and fruit pulp not otherwise specified in this schedule, 350 parts per million of sulphur dioxide.

French Regulations Governing Marking of Canned Fish

The French regulation for the marking of canned fish has now been extended to apply to the French Colonies, according to a decree of August 26th.

The French law of 1906 requires that foreign canned sardines, vegetables and prunes must be marked with embossed or embedded letters to show the country of origin before their importation or shipment in France will be permitted. This law was subsequently extended to include all canned fish.

Canned Fruit Week in Australia

According to the American consul at Adelaide, Australia, the week of November 8th was observed throughout Australia as Canned Fruit Week for the purpose of increasing home consumption of fruit. The production of canned fruits in Australia has so greatly increased that there is a surplus each year of approximately 35 per cent, which it is not found profitable to export. The inauguration of a special campaign is expected to overcome the present difficulty by inducing the Australian people to consume more fruit.

Fruit Canning in Chile

According to the Department of Commerce, fruit growing in Chile has developed into an important industry. The area of land planted to fruit of all kinds is about 300,000 acres in the central region, comprising about 25,000 square miles. Fruit growing has become the leading occupation of the rural population. This industry has brought into existence many drying, canning, and preserving establishments, and the Chilean Government has lately established a model canning factory which has resulted in great improvements.

A British firm in Chile has been very successful in preserving small fruits, including strawberries, raspberries, currants, and loganberries, which can be grown profitably in southern Chile.

New Food Law in Paraguay

The Department of Commerce announces that the Government of Paraguay has promulgated a new food law, which became effective October 24, 1926. The object of the new law is to guard against misbranding or adulteration of food, and authorizes the National Chemical Office to supervise the manufacture, storage, importation and sale of all foods and beverages.

All foods are subject to analysis by the Chemical Office upon importation and before customs duties are paid. No foods which do not comply with the regulation will be admitted. Foods unfit for consumption will be destroyed; if misbranded they will be confiscated.

Further details of the law may be secured from this office or from the Tariffs Division, U. S. Department of Commerce, Washington, D. C.

The Sardine Industry of Vigo, Spain

The Foodstuffs Division, U. S. Department of Commerce, reports that they have received a very complete report on the sardine industry of Vigo, Spain, prepared by the American Consul in that city. Complete report is available for loan to interested American firms upon request.

Canned Foods in Japan

According to the Tokio Office of the Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce, green peas, mushrooms, and bamboo shoots are the most common vegetables canned in Japan. Among the fruits peaches and cherries are in greatest demand.

It is stated that asparagus is the only canned vegetable imported in appreciable quantities, about 30,000 cases being imported annually. The chief obstacle limiting the imports of American canned fruits is the luxury tariff of 100 per cent ad valorem on canned fruits in syrup.